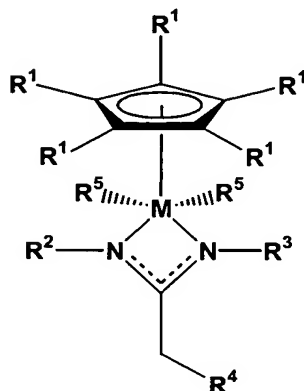


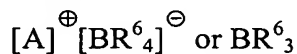
WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An olefin polymerization catalyst comprising a pre-catalyst having the formula:



- wherein M is Ti, Zr or Hf;
each R¹ is independently hydrogen or alkyl or two adjacent R¹ form an aryl group;
each R² and R³ is optionally substituted and is independently alkyl, cycloalkyl, SiX₃, or aryl; or
one R¹ and one of R² or R³ are taken together to form an alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl or alkylarylalkyl bridge;
R⁴ comprises alkyl, cycloalkyl, SiX₃, aryl, BR⁶₃ or a solid support;
each R⁵ is halo, optionally substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, or arylalkyl;
R⁶ is optionally substituted phenyl;
B is the element boron; and
X is independently halo, alkyl, alkoxy or aryl.

2. A catalyst composition comprising the olefin polymerization catalyst of claim 1 and a co-catalyst of the formula:



wherein A[⊕] is a cationic Lewis or Brønsted acid.

3. The composition of claim 2, wherein said co-catalyst is $[\text{PhNHMe}_2][\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_4]$.

4. The catalyst of claim 1, wherein said solid support is an organic polymer or inorganic oxide.

5. The catalyst of claim 4, wherein said polymer is a polystyrene, polyamide, or polysaccharide.

6. The catalyst of claim 4, wherein said inorganic oxide is a silica, alumina, titania, zirconia, or a combination thereof.

7. The catalyst of claim 1, wherein said aryl is phenyl, naphthyl, indenyl, phenanthrenyl, anthracenyl, fluorenyl, or biphenyl.

8. The catalyst of claim 1, wherein:
said optional substituents on alkyl are alkoxy, amide, aryl, alkyl, halo, ketone, ester, aldehyde, cyano and nitro; and
said optional substituents on aryl are alkoxy, amide, aryl, alkyl, halo, ketone, ester, aldehyde, cyano and nitro.

9. The catalyst of claim 1, wherein M is Zr.

10. The catalyst of claim 1, wherein each R^1 is hydrogen.

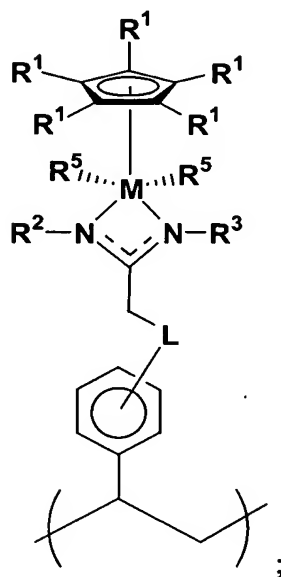
11. The catalyst of claim 1, wherein each R^1 is methyl.

12. The catalyst of claim 1, wherein said catalyst comprises about 0.1-10 mequiv/g of catalytic sites.

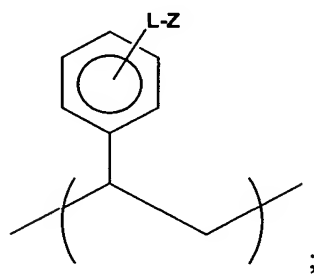
13. The catalyst of claim 1, wherein said pre-catalyst is a copolymer having the formula:

poly[A-co-B];

wherein unit A has the formula:



unit B has the formula:



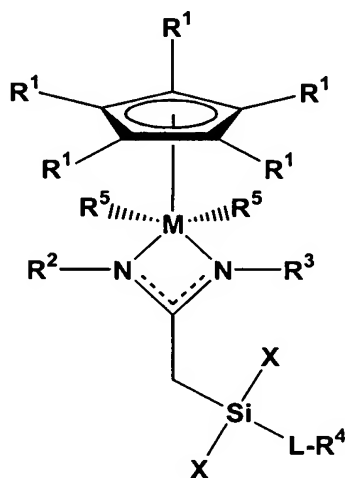
L is a linking group; and

Z is hydrogen, C₁₋₃ alkyl or C₁₋₃ alkoxy.

14. The catalyst of claim 13, wherein L is sulfonyl, C₁₋₃ alkyl, C₁₋₃ alkoxy, carbonyl or does not exist.

15. The catalyst of claim 13, wherein said unit A has a molar percentage in the range of about 50-80% and said unit B has a molar percentage in the range of about 20-50%.

16. The catalyst of claim 1, wherein said pre-catalyst has the formula:



wherein L is a linking group.

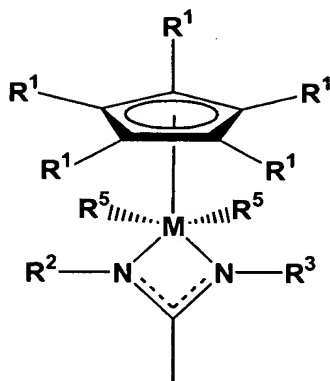
17. The catalyst of claim 16, wherein L is amino, epoxy, thio, alkyl, alkoxy or aryl.

18. The catalyst of claim 16 wherein R⁴ is an inorganic oxide and L is epoxy.

19. The catalyst of claim 16, wherein said catalyst comprises about 0.1-10 mequiv/g of catalytic sites.

20. A process for preparing an olefin polymerization catalyst, comprising:

(a) deprotonating a metal acetamidinate having the formula:



wherein M is Ti, Zr or Hf;

each R¹ is independently hydrogen or alkyl or two adjacent R¹ form an aryl group;

each R² and R³ is optionally substituted and is independently alkyl, cycloalkyl, SiX₃, or aryl; or

one R¹ and one of R² or R³ are taken together to form an alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl or alkylarylalkyl bridge;

each R⁵ is halo, optionally substituted alkyl, cycloalkyl, aryl, or arylalkyl;

X is independently halo, alkyl, alkoxy or aryl;

to form an intermediate; and

(b) contacting said intermediate with an electrophile to form a precatalyst.

21. The process of claim 20, further comprising:

(c) reacting said pre-catalyst with an activating co-catalyst.

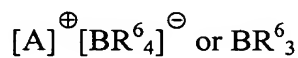
22. The process of claim 20, wherein said electrophile is electrophilic polystyrene.

23. The process of claim 20, wherein said electrophile is chloromethyl-substituted polystyrene, sulfonyl chloride-substituted polystyrene, B(C₆F₅)₃ or SiX₃; and X is independently halo, alkyl, alkoxy or aryl.

24. The process of claim 20, further comprising after (b):
(d) reacting said precatalyst with an inorganic oxide solid support.

25. The process of claim 20, wherein said inorganic oxide is a silica, alumina, titania, zirconia, or a combination thereof.

26. The process of claim 21, wherein said co-catalyst has one of the formulae:



wherein A^{\oplus} is a cationic Lewis or Brønsted acid;

B is the element boron; and

R^6 is optionally substituted phenyl.

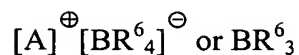
27. The process of claim 26, wherein said co-catalyst is $[\text{PhNHMe}_2][\text{B}(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5)_4]$.

28. The process of claim 20, wherein M is Zr.

29. The process of claim 28, wherein each R^1 is methyl.

30. A process for preparing a polyolefin, comprising:
reacting an olefin with an activated olefin polymerization catalyst composition, under conditions that result in the formation of a polyolefin;
wherein said catalyst composition comprises the pre-catalyst of claim 1.

31. The process of claim 30, wherein said catalyst composition further comprises a co-catalyst having one of the formulae:



wherein A^{\oplus} is a cationic Lewis or Brønsted acid.

32. The process of claim 31, wherein said co-catalyst is $[PhNHMe_2][B(C_6F_5)_4]$.

33. The process of claim 30, wherein said olefin is ethene, propene, 1-butene, 1-pentene, 1-hexene, 1-heptene, 1-octene, styrene, alpha-methyl styrene, butadiene, isoprene, acrylonitrile, methyl acrylate, methyl methacrylate, vinyl acetate, vinyl chloride, vinyl fluoride, vinylidene chloride, N-vinyl pyrrolidone, 3-methylbutene, 3-methyl-1-pentene, vinylcyclohexene, vinylcyclobutane, vinylcyclopentane, vinylcyclooctane, 1-decene, enantiomerically pure β -citronellene, 3,5,5-trimethyl-1-hexene or 4-methyl-1-pentene.

34. The process of claim 30, wherein said olefin comprises a mixture of two or more monomers having vinyl unsaturation.